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COVID-19 Journal | Maycie Eubank

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Covid-19 Journals

Maycie Eubank

-Journal Description

In this journal, I will discuss how my days went after coming home from college because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The time period for this journal is from March 30, 2020 until April 27, 2020, I am currently a Freshman, studying Nursing at Jacksonville State University. During this time, I was at my home in Springville, AL.

-Monday, Mar 30, 2020

Today, I signed up for a move-out day for my dorm room. It was very bittersweet knowing that my freshman year of college was cut a semester early. I have complained all semester to my parents about how small and compact being in the dorm was. Today I realized that I'm really going to miss my little dorm room... My roommate and I had a lot of great memories in Logan Hall room 221. I will forever be grateful for all of the memories I have in that dorm.

I drove up to Jacksonville today for the first time in almost two weeks to start bringing all of my stuff back home so my move-out day will be a little less hectic. After getting all of my things I was bringing back with me in my car, I was hungry and wanted to get something to eat. I went to The Roost so I could use up some of my flex dollars I have left over from this semester. When I walked in, there was tape on the ground so we (the customers) would know where to stand to be six feet away from the workers and the other costumers at all times. When everything about COVID-19 started, I did not think it would impact my life in such a drastic way.

-Wednesday, April 1, 2020

Today, I got out of the house and went to Starbucks to order my favorite drink and try to use up some of my \$50 gift card I got for my birthday. My birthday was in March 22, which is a about a week and a half ago. Having to spend my birthday in quarantine was very hard and actually quite depressing. I did not get to see my friends in person, I did not get to go out to eat with my family, like I do every year, but on the bright side, I got to spend it with my parents.

When I pulled up to Starbucks there was no line at the drive through, which is very unusual. Every time I have been to my local Starbucks, there is at least three to four cars waiting in the drive-through. Today, I also went fishing in the pond in my neighborhood and caught a fish. There are usually lots of people around the pond riding four wheelers, golf carts, throwing a frisbee or a football, or just having a family picnic. But today, I was the only one out there. When all of this first started, all of the families in the neighborhood would go outside and spend time with their kids and neighborhood friends, but now it's like a ghost town. I also took my first online American History exam today; it's so weird not being in class.

-Friday, April 3, 2020

Today, the most exciting thing that happened to me was when I went to go get myself breakfast from the Jacks that is three minutes away from my house. I have not been anywhere in about 4 days and I am going crazy being in this house all by myself all day long. I have gotten

into a daily routine that I do every single day. I wake up around 8 and take my dog outside to use the bathroom, I come back inside and make myself breakfast, I do what schoolwork I have to do for the day, then make myself lunch. After lunch I do whatever chores I need to get done for the day, then I can catch up on my social media and my Netflix shows until my parents get home and it's time to cook dinner.

Before COVID-19, my parents would cook dinner, but not every night. Now, either me or my parents will cook dinner every single night. I am really enjoying having home-cooked meals every night; when I was in Jacksonville, I was really missing my parent's cooking. Even if I am the one cooking dinner some nights, having a home-cooked meal is better than a microwave meal any day of the week!

-Sunday, April 5, 2020

Yesterday, I went fishing again in my neighborhood pond. This time, I did not catch anything, but I did see two families walking in the neighborhood. It is so crazy to see how much this is affecting my neighborhood. Families are not letting their children go out and play with their neighborhood friends. On my way down to the pond, I saw two children "playing together" from two yards across the street from one another. I cannot imagine being a young child during this time... I bet it is so confusing that all of a sudden, you cannot go outside and play with your friends, you have to stay inside all day and play... you can no longer go to school and see your school friends or your teachers.

My nephew is four years old and is my first-hand experience with how the pandemic is affecting young children. I cannot go over to their house, but I can facetime them when I miss them, and they can facetime me when they miss me. I got a facetime call today from my sister-in-law around three o'clock. As soon as I answered, I could hear my nephew telling me how much he missed me and then asked me if I could come over and play with him this week. I told him how much I missed him too and sadly told him that I could not come over this week. The look on his face broke my heart... I wanted so badly to be able to tell him that I would be over there today, but I couldn't. What breaks my heart the most is that he does not understand why we have to stay inside all day long, why we cannot just go to our friends' house whenever we want to like we could just a little while ago.

-Tuesday, April 7, 2020

Today, I finally got all of my things moved into my room at my parent's house and organized. It took me about three days to get everything where I wanted it and to figure out which things I want to keep at my parent's house, and which things I want to take to my storage unit in Jacksonville. My parents just moved to a new house a few weeks ago, they wanted to downsize since my two older siblings are already moved out of the house, and I will be moving out soon as well. Downsizing means less space, less space means no room for my stuff, so I had to purchase a storage unit for the majority of my things. This whole move-out process has been so challenging and time-consuming.

I drive a small car so I cannot fit very many things of any size in my car at one time, meaning I had to make multiple trips back and forth to get all of my things out of my dorm and either into my storage unit or into my parent's house. With my parent's moving to a new

house, JSU is now thirty minutes closer, so I only had to drive an hour to campus instead of an hour and a half. I was excited to have my round trip go from three hours to two hours!

-Thursday, April 9, 2020

Today consisted of housework and schoolwork. All. Day. Long. But on the bright side, I was able to get caught up on a lot of my Anatomy and Physiology homework. I usually do not have the cleanest room because I just don't really make time to clean my room, but for the next few months that I am home, I want to create better habits. Before I moved to college, I had a pretty good routine for the day and a pretty good skincare routine and a healthy diet. I don't really realize how much I have neglected my self-care since I've been at college. I stopped taking care of myself in the way that I was taking care of myself before moving to Jacksonville, so I am going to create new easy habits that I can still do every day when I go back to school.

Some days, my neighborhood will have food trucks at the clubhouse. Tonight, there was a Eugene's food truck, so we were just going to walk down to the clubhouse for dinner. Keep in mind, I have been inside all day doing housework and schoolwork, so I still have on my pajamas. Let me just say, my mom is one of those people who wants to be "presentable" (hair and makeup done) even when she is just sitting around the house all day, and I'm wearing sweatpants, a size XL t-shirt, and my house shoes walking down the street to get food from the food truck. We are in a pretty big neighborhood, with a lot of houses and a lot of large families and we live pretty close to the clubhouse, so we just walked there along with all of our other neighbors. The whole time we were walking, my mom was telling me how embarrassed she was that I was wearing sweats and a baggy t-shirt with my slippers. Even though I was getting funny looks from my neighbors, I was walking down the road in full confidence because I was comfortable and ready to eat some Eugene's chicken. Today I learned that I do not care and that I have no shame when it comes to what I wear. College has taught me that there are more important things in life than looking cute... like food.

-Saturday, April 11, 2020

Last night it was my turn to cook dinner. I went to Walmart (I wore a mask and gloves of course) and picked out what I wanted to cook along with some other groceries we needed. On the menu last night: Chicken Stir Fry and Fried Rice! I have cooked before but have never really been in charge of going to the store and buying everything, cooking it, and serving it. Tonight was my first time being fully responsible for a whole meal and I honestly felt like a mom, haha! It was kind of stressful because I didn't know if my parents would like it, or if they even wanted chicken stir fry and fried rice, but I went with my gut and made it anyway. After getting home, I unloaded all of the groceries, washed my hands and started cooking dinner.

Cooking multiple things at one time is a lot harder than I thought it would be! It was hard for me to judge when I should start cooking each thing. Overall, I would say I did a pretty good job considering it was my first time. I cooked the rice first because it had to fully cool before I could fry it in the pan with the peas and carrots. I accidentally put the bag of rice in the water before the water was boiling so the rice soaked up too much water and was mushy.

Other than that, everything was very good, seasoned well, the chicken was very tender, the vegetables in the stir fry had a good crunch, but were soft at the same time. I would say my first home-cooked meal went fairly well, other than the mushy rice... I can't wait for my turn to cook dinner to come back around!

-Monday, April 13, 2020

Lately, I have been praying for a new start, a new beginning, a new opportunity. I have always been skeptical about being a consultant for an online company, but today I got a Direct Message from this lady and she seemed very passionate about Arbonne. I thought about it and made the decision to start a new job as an Arbonne consultant. I have been trying to make healthier lifestyle choices and do more personal growth and with Arbonne, my job would be just that, as well as helping others begin healthy living and personal development. I am super excited to start this new journey; I truly believe this opportunity is God-sent.

Even though I truly believe this new path will be beneficial to me, I am scared to tell my parents. I have always done what my parents have wanted and have always gone to my parents for approval for everything but decided to do this for myself. I am unsure if I am exactly "scared" to tell my parents about my new journey, I think it is more of me wanted to do something on my own. I know I will eventually tell them, but for now I want to know that I can do this on my own.

-Wednesday, April 15, 2020

Today, I decided that it was time for me to get out of the house. I called my hometown best friend and we decided to meet at our local Sonic. Don't worry, we stayed in our own cars and communicated through rolled down windows. I am a very social person, so it is extremely hard for me to go from seeing my friends every single day to not see any of my friends at all. I just needed to get out of the house and have some human contact other than with my parents and over Facetime. It actually felt really good to just drive around; I ride with the windows down the whole way there and I loved it!

When I was on my way back home, I got a call from one of my school best friends, and sorority sister that lives very close, and said she was out and wanted to meet up to talk. We met half-way between our houses at a gas station and sat in our cars talking through rolled down windows for close to a half hour just catching up on how everything has been during quarantine. Today was a very eventful day! I got to see two of my friends in one day. I think I will be okay for another week. The funny thing about this quarantine is that it has really showed me how much I really appreciate the little things that people do; it is the little things that matter the most in my eyes.

-Friday, April 17, 2020

My first Arbonne package came in today!! I am overwhelmed with excitement to start this new journey! I know this is not going to be the easiest thing, but once I get a good client base, and can recruit people on my team, it will be all worth it! Everything good, must be worked for and that will be my motivation. I have decided to take an hour out of my day every day to try and build my business. I tried my first shake and my first fizz stick today and I am

absolutely IN LOVE. It is going to be so much easier for me to sell products that I am passionate about.

I also dyed my hair today. I went to Walmart and picked up some ten-wash pink and blue hair dye. I have wanted to do this for a while now but could never bring myself to do it. I guess I have worked up the courage to do it now that everyone is in quarantine and I know that I will not have to see anyone except my parents for the next month or so. I did some strands blue and others pink. After I washed everything out, I looked like a mermaid. I kind of love it actually; I am glad it turned out the way I envisioned. But I guess even if it didn't turn out the way I thought it would, it would wash out in about a week and a half anyway! Once it washed out, I may do it again. I have plenty left over to do it about three more times... I guess we'll see depending on how much longer we are in quarantine haha.

-Sunday, April 19, 2020

Today was a selfcare day. I woke up this morning, cleaned my room, finished all of my laundry, washed my sheets, took an extra-long shower, plucked my eyebrows, tinted my eyebrows, put on some self-tanner, whitened my teeth, and painted my nails. Today really made me realize how much I have neglected myself while being in school. I was always running around and doing, and not leaving enough time for me to pamper myself every once in a while.

After we go back to school when quarantine is over, I will make it a point to take some time out of the day, week, month to pamper myself a little bit. I always feel so much better when I feel like I look good. I have been sitting in the house all day, but let me tell you, this is the best I have felt about myself in a very long time. When I practice really good self-care, it boosts my confidence and I even feel like it makes me more productive when it comes to school work!

-Tuesday, April 21, 2020

Today, my day consisted of nothing but binge-watching Netflix. While I was at school, I did not really get the chance to watch Netflix like I did before I moved to school. I was always busy while I was in Jacksonville with either school, sorority, or one of the other two organizations I was involved in. I didn't really have much time for things outside of those four activities. Me being able to finally catch up on the shows I was watching before coming to college. I still have to keep up with my schoolwork, but my nights have freed up because I no longer have organizational meetings almost every night

While being under quarantine, I have been able to finish All American as well as Outer Banks. I have loved both of those shows and am currently looking for another good one to watch. I usually cannot watch things that are more than about three seasons because I lose my interest. I haven't always been like that though, When I was a freshman in high school, I finished Grey's Anatomy and Pretty Little Liars, I feel like as I've gotten older, I have less and less time to do the things that I want to do and the things that I have to do are taking up more and more of my time. I guess that's what happens when you get older...

-Thursday, April 23, 2020

I got another shipment of Arbonne today! In my package today, I got makeup to try out. I have always loved makeup and watched beauty gurus on YouTube, but I am not exactly the best at makeup. I pretty much stick with my certain makeup products that I know work for my skin, and I think look okay. Trying out new makeup products always scares me because I have very sensitive skin and I never know if they will make me break out or not. I hate wasting my money, so if I can find something that works for my skin, I stick to it.

I was very nervous to try out all new products on my face because I wasn't sure how my skin would react. Thankfully, my skin did not break out, it did not turn red, it did not make my face itch, and the products did not burn my face. I really loved all of the makeup that they sent to me and they all worked together and blended very well. I'm not going to lie; I was actually very impressed with the way my makeup turned out! While I was doing my makeup, I was videoing it and doing a little makeup review to post on Facebook. I felt like a beauty influencer reviewing makeup products. Doing my makeup, recording the video, editing the video, and posting the video took up the majority of my day. I now know why the most popular beauty influencers only have one job: makeup.

-Saturday, April 25, 2020

Today was the best day I've had in a very long time!! Yesterday was my hometown best friend's birthday and I got to give her one of the best surprises. My friend went to a different college than me and had this really amazing roommate that I have become friends with too. Her roommate lives two hours away and is transferring next semester to be closer to home. Once the COVID-19 outbreak happened, and they had to moved back home, my best friend though she would not be able to see her roommate for a long time. Her roommate and I were texting and we both decided to surprise her for her birthday. She drove two hours, and was in charge of the gift, and I was in charge of the food and a cupcake for her.

Her roommate and I drove separate cars, practicing social distancing guidelines, and the look on her face when she saw both of us was priceless! For everyone who has had a birthday during this time has been very hard; I know because my birthday was just one week after everything shut down. Knowing that I could help make someone's day a little brighter in the midst of this pandemic made my heart so happy. Although the state is still on lockdown, we are all in this together.

-Monday, April 27, 2020

Today was a very eventful day. My sister in law is a nurse and has been going to work throughout the pandemic. She has three young boys of her own all under the age of five, so she has to be very careful to not bring home any germs. She asked me to keep my nephews today for a few hours while she was at work. I was a little hesitant to saying yes to keeping them, but I knew she needed my help. They were all very well behaved and did not seem to be feeling bad. My sister in law understood my hesitancy and explained to me that she has been taking an extra pair of clothes with her to work to change into before she comes home to make sure that her children, as well as my brother do not get exposed to the virus.

I have a lot of respect for the men and women working in the health care field who are going into work early and staying late to ensure their patients are as comfortable as they can be during this terrible time. It breaks my heart that there are parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles,

friends, and children passing away while being unable to see their loved ones. However, I know it is for the safety of the health care workers who risk their health every day they go into work to serve those who have the virus.